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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
RYUJI ISHIGURO, ET AL. : EXAMINER: LAFORGIA, C. A.  
SERIAL NO: 09/576,621 :  
FILED: MAY 23, 2000 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2131  
FOR: INFORMATION PROCESSING :  
APPARATUS, INFORMATION  
PROCESSING METHOD, AND  
PROGRAM STORAGE MEDIUM

AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Advisory Action dated November 8, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 9 of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10 of this paper.